

## SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY 2008–2009 ANNUAL REPORT



SERVING THE SIERRA NEVADA  
SERVES CALIFORNIA



## SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT



Kayaking on Wrights Lake

**State of California**  
Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

**Natural Resources Agency**  
Mike Chrisman, Secretary

**Sierra Nevada Conservancy**  
Jim Branham, Executive Officer  
Joan Keegan, Assistant Executive Officer

11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, CA 95603  
TEL 530.823.4670  
TOLL FREE 877.257.1212  
FAX 530.823.4665

[www.sierranevada.ca.gov](http://www.sierranevada.ca.gov)  
[geninfo@sierranevada.ca.gov](mailto:geninfo@sierranevada.ca.gov)

On the Cover: Morning Frost, Yosemite NP.  
Courtesy of ElizabethCarmel.com.



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Fall Foilage on the Susan River, Lassen County



## REMEMBERING ANDREA MEAD LAWRENCE

The Sierra Nevada lost one of its key champions this year with the passing of Andrea Mead Lawrence. She dedicated most of her life's work to the conservation and protection of the environment of the Sierra, working tirelessly to bring disparate groups together to solve issues often related to land use and water quality.

Lawrence served on the Mono County Board of Supervisors for 16 years and most recently founded the Andrea Lawrence Institute of Mountains and Rivers. Until 1972 she was the only woman skier in the world to win two gold medals in the same Olympics, but her position as the only American skier with that achievement stood until the end of her life.

*"Time spent with Andrea was always rich and inspirational. She empowered her many friends and colleagues daily with her never-ending interest, encouragement, and counsel. Andrea believed that to whom much is given, much is expected and she taught us by example to always strive to better our communities and steward the world around us. Her contributions to the entire Sierra Nevada Region are significant and lasting and although she is sorely missed, her legacy of service continues through all of us who often heard her say 'We just have to get this done.'"*

**Julie Bear, Mt. Whitney SNC Representative**



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR



Mike Chrisman, Secretary  
for Natural Resources  
SNC Board Chair

Clearly the ongoing state fiscal challenges have affected the work of all state agencies, and the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC) is no exception. Elsewhere in this report you will read more about how those impacts have played themselves out in the Region.

I want to use this opportunity to focus on the organization that the SNC has become over the past few years. More than the programs it administers and the grants it awards, the SNC has become an important part of the Sierra Nevada landscape.

In September 2009 the SNC celebrates five years since it was created by legislation authored by John Laird and Tim Leslie and signed by Governor Schwarzenegger. Last October the Governor commented on this

significant accomplishment when he said: *"Creating the Sierra Nevada Conservancy was a historic commitment. It laid out a vision, a master plan to preserve not only the environmental splendor but also the economic vitality of this 25 million acre California treasure, a treasure whose rivers provide more than 60 percent of our water, whose forests provide nearly half of the timber in California, where millions from around the world come here to ski, to hike and to go fishing."*

Having had the honor to serve as Chairman of the SNC Board (Board) over the past four plus years, I believe the organization is indeed living up to its promise. Our Board has proven to be the perfect mix of local officials and state appointees with the resulting balance and perspective.

The Board has provided steady guidance and direction to help create an organization to "match its mountains."

I am particularly pleased with the Sierra Nevada Region's (Region) engagement with the SNC for the betterment of this magnificent part of California. Local governments, land trusts, private landowners, environmental groups, water agencies, fire-safe councils, state and federal agencies and natural resource organizations have been active partners in the establishing the SNC's programs. Many of those who questioned whether the SNC was a good idea have become convinced that it is precisely the type of organization needed to address the uniqueness of the Region.

Our staff has made collaboration and cooperation a part of the organizational culture, always looking for opportunities to add value and provide assistance. The various efforts described in this report are examples of the kind of ongoing efforts that have created positive relationships throughout the Region.

Open, transparent government has been a hallmark of the SNC. Actively engaging stakeholders and the public has resulted in important input as to the focus of the organization and continues to play an important role as the SNC seeks to adapt and improve.

On behalf of all of the Boardmembers, we look forward to continued contributions from the SNC in the years to come. The difficult challenges we have faced this year will only make the organization stronger in the long run.

I offer my sincere appreciation to our great staff and the many partners who have made the last few years so successful.



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Cross Country Skiing in the Sierra Nevada

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT



Jim Branham  
Executive Officer

So much for the best laid plans. After completing our first year of Proposition 84 grant awards in 2007–08 ([see Appendix B](#)), we were looking forward to building on that success in 2008–09. Unfortunately, the state's ongoing fiscal woes had a true chilling effect on our grant program.

Just two weeks after awarding nearly \$3 million in grants at the December 2008 SNC Board meeting ([see Appendix A](#)), all of our Proposition 84 grants were frozen in place. This meant all authorized projects could not continue with state funding. Obviously this was a very unfortunate development, in particular not being able to pay grantees for work already completed.

Nonetheless, the year has been a productive one for the SNC in other ways. Despite furloughs, budget challenges and the grant freeze, the SNC has continued to find opportunities to assist a wide variety of partners in the Region.

In this report, we discuss a number of activities that we have undertaken over the course of year, pointing out the unique opportunities the SNC has had to add value to existing efforts and to assist in initiating new ones.

One of our earlier efforts came to fruition with the Lassen Land and Trails Trust's acquisition of the Modoc Line in Modoc and Lassen Counties and we helped to convene key stakeholders to organize integrated regional water planning processes in a number of areas in the Region. In Calaveras County, we worked with Supervisor Wilensky and a diverse set

of community groups to help create Calaveras Consensus (since renamed Amador-Calaveras Consensus), an effort aimed at addressing fire risk, ecological needs and local economic vitality in a complementary fashion.

Our staff continues to be involved in important efforts to secure a Sierra Nevada environmental license plate and is taking the lead role in organizing the first ever Great Sierra River Cleanup. In June the State Capitol was home to a display developed by the SNC that told the story of the Region's importance to all Californians—a display that received rave reviews from many who saw it.

Indeed, this year has been full of challenges, frustrations and surprises. We will learn from it and continue to find ways to carry out our mission even when things do not go as planned.

Once again, my sincere appreciation to the SNC staff who continue to do an outstanding job and remain passionate and committed to the important work being done in the Sierra Nevada.

Finally, a few words of thanks are in order to our many partners who have been directly affected by the state's fiscal condition. Thanks for your patience. Thanks for your understanding. Thanks for continuing to find ways to make the Sierra Nevada an even more special place.



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Snow on Broad Street, Nevada City, Nevada County



## THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY AND THE REGION WE SERVE

### THE RESOURCES OF THE SIERRA NEVADA BENEFIT ALL CALIFORNIANS

People from around the state, the country and the world visit the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains in California. These breathtaking landscapes not only provide wonderful opportunities to play, visit historic and cultural sites and re-connect with the natural world, they provide a whole host of benefits to California's economy, wildlife, and quality of life.

The [Region](#), made up of all or part of 22 counties and over 25 million acres, is one of the most significant natural and biologically diverse regions in the world. It constitutes about 25 percent of California's land area and is the state's principal watershed, supplying approximately 65 percent of the developed water supply to residents and businesses across the state.

The 22 counties making up the SNC are organized into six Subregions:

- **North Sierra:** Modoc, Shasta, Lassen Counties
- **North Central Sierra:** Tehama, Butte, Plumas, Sierra Counties
- **Central Sierra:** Yuba, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado Counties
- **South Central Sierra:** Amador, Calaveras, Tuolumne, Mariposa Counties
- **South Sierra:** Madera, Fresno, Tulare, Kern Counties
- **East Sierra:** Alpine, Mono, Inyo Counties

The Region is the primary source of hydroelectric power generated in the state and a significant contributor of wood products. Its forests and rangelands provide habitat for the majority of California's plant and animal species.

The forests and agricultural lands of the Sierra Nevada are also uniquely suited to help reduce the warming impact of a changing climate. Excess carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) in the atmosphere is absorbed by trees, plants and crops through photosynthesis, and stored in tree trunks, branches, foliage, roots and soils.

### THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY SERVES THE REGION AND THE STATE

The SNC is a state agency created by bi-partisan legislation co-authored by Assembly members John Laird and Tim Leslie and signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2004 ([statutes](#)). It was created with the understanding that the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada and its communities are closely linked and that the Region would benefit from an organization providing a strategic direction. The SNC was charged with a broad mission and seven program goals to be accomplished through a variety of activities in collaboration and cooperation with partners.

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### MISSION

The Sierra Nevada Conservancy initiates, encourages, and supports efforts that improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada Region, its communities and the citizens of California.

### PROGRAM GOALS

The SNC supports the Region in many tangible ways: from providing funding for local projects to offering technical assistance and other support for collaborative projects in partnership with local government, non-profit organizations and Tribal entities. The SNC's activities support seven program goals:

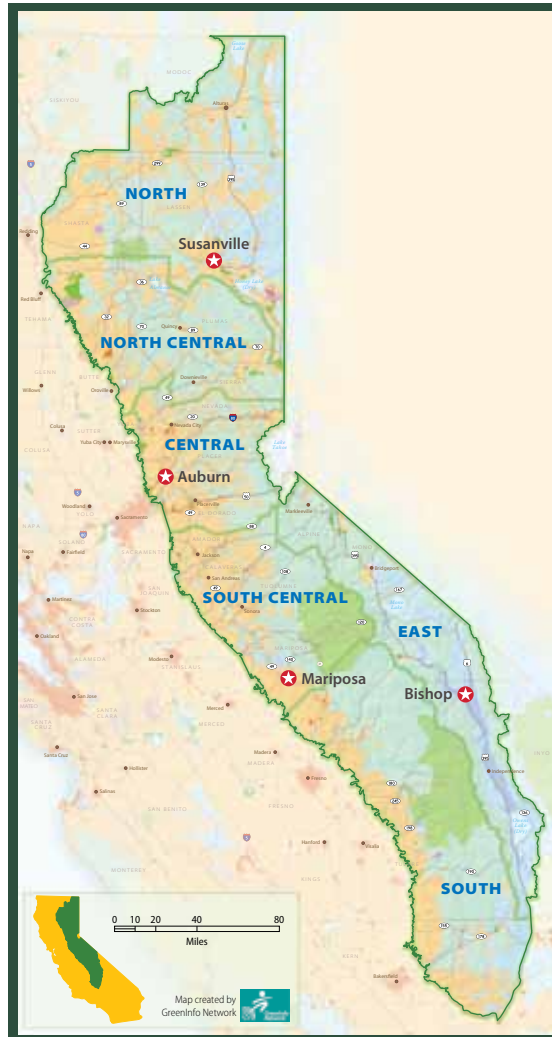
- Provide increased opportunity for tourism and recreation in the Region;
- Protect, conserve and restore the Region's physical, cultural, archaeological, historical and living resources;
- Aid in the preservation of working landscapes;
- Reduce the risk of natural disasters, such as wildfire;
- Protect and improve water and air quality;
- Assist the regional economy; and
- Enhance public use and enjoyment of lands owned by the public.

It is no accident that all of the citizens of California are included as a part of SNC's mission statement, because the work the SNC does to serve the Region serves the entire State. As demonstrated in the following pages, some aspects of the well-being of the entire State are tied directly to the well-being of Sierra Nevada watersheds, forests, rangelands, and communities.



Earth Day, Squaw Valley

## THE SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY AND THE REGION WE SERVE



### Sierra Nevada Conservancy Region

- ★ **Mt. Lassen Area Office**  
Linda Hansen, Senior Representative  
2950 Riverside Drive  
Susanville, California 96130  
530.257.2500 tel  
530.257.2506 fax
- ★ **Headquarters Office**  
Bob Kingman, Mt Lassen Area Manager  
Kerri Timmer, Program Manager  
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205  
Auburn, California 95603  
530.823.4670 tel  
530.823.4665 fax
- ★ **Mt. Whitney Area Office, Mariposa**  
Kim Carr, Mt Whitney Area Manager  
5039 Fairgrounds Road  
Mariposa, California 95338  
209.742.0480 tel  
209.742.7160 fax
- ★ **Mt. Whitney Area Office, Bishop**  
Julie Bear, Senior Representative  
351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200  
Bishop, California 93514  
760.872.1120 tel  
760.872.1140 fax



Giant Sequoia



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Yosemite National Park

## WATER—MOST OF CALIFORNIA'S WATER COMES FROM THE SIERRA NEVADA



### HEALTHY WATERSHEDS IN THE SIERRA STORE AND CLEAN WATER FOR THE ENTIRE STATE

Reliable and adequate water supply is critical to the State's economic and environmental vitality. Approximately 65 percent of California's water supply originates in the Sierra Nevada. This water is a major source for the state's agriculture and ranching industries, is the domestic supply for millions of Californians and serves as important aquatic habitat. As the water works its way down, it also serves as the state's leading source of hydroelectric power generation, providing 15 percent of California's entire energy use.

The Sierra Nevada serves as the state's principal natural reservoir, storing water in annual snowpack, meadows, and forests. Healthy watersheds also retain water underground, protecting it from contaminants in the air. Healthy meadows have the ability to store and yield significant amounts of water while filtering out sediments and other pollutants.

A warming climate leads to a decrease in the snowpack in the Sierra Nevada. This snowpack stores much of the state's water during the winter and releases it slowly over the spring and summer months. Less snow results in increased chances of flooding due to changes in precipitation patterns, and less water available to downstream municipalities, wildlife and crops when it is needed most.

Projects that enhance and restore the upper watershed forests and meadow systems improve water quality and supply reliability and safeguard significant habitats and migratory corridors. Investing in the state's primary watersheds is a long-term solution to challenges such as increasing water demands, threatened water quality, and for buffering climate change impacts.

Bassi Fork Silver Creek, El Dorado National Forest

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### WHAT THE SNC IS DOING

The SNC invests in Sierra Nevada watersheds through our grant program and the facilitation and support services that we provide to communities. The SNC has grants in place for projects that include watershed assessments, water conservation demonstration gardens, watershed and alpine meadows restoration, and land protection via conservation easements and fee title acquisition.

For example, the SNC provided a grant to develop a restoration plan for Lower Ash Creek on the boundary of Lassen and Modoc Counties, which was completed in 2008. The restoration plan encompasses 3.5 miles of Lower Ash Creek, a tributary of the Pit River, and 2,400 acres of watershed within Ash Creek Wildlife Area. Once implemented, water flow through the Wildlife Area will be greatly improved—improving hydration of the wetlands, flood control, and water quality into the Pit River.

In 2008–09 the SNC played a key role in addressing the need for Integrated Regional Water Management Plans (IRWMP) in parts of the Region where planning efforts were not already underway or completed. An IRWMP is a voluntary, non-regulatory planning document that identifies broadly supported goals and objectives pertaining to water resources management and identifies water and watershed-related projects. Each plan is informed and implemented by collaboration with stakeholders and various pre-existing plans in the Region. Completion of an IRWMP is needed to qualify for the hundreds of millions of dollars to be disbursed by the Department of Water Resources over the next five years.

As a result of SNC's efforts to convene and facilitate stakeholders in areas where planning was not occurring, all parts of the Region will reap the benefits of being part of an IRWMP. These efforts included grants for

IRWMP groups in the East, Central and Southern parts of the Region, as well as facilitation and support services for these groups.

In addition, the SNC helps coordinate the Sierra Water Group, which consists of representatives from all of the Sierra IRWMP groups. These representatives include local, state and federal government, non-profits, water purveyors, and other stakeholders. A primary goal of the group is to develop a common vision and voice for Sierra water by developing action items to be implemented collaboratively.

*"Sierra Nevada Conservancy has been able to provide in-kind support services, coordination, project management, mediation, and meeting facilitation, to bring our communities together about how to best manage and plan for our water resources. Without them, this project would have completely come to a halt."*

**Brenda Ostrom, Grant Writer and Program Manager,  
Mariposa County Resource Conservation District**



## FIRE—SIERRA NEVADA FORESTS ARE INCREASINGLY AT RISK

### WELL MANAGED FORESTS BENEFIT LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND CALIFORNIA

The forests and woodlands of the Sierra provide many benefits to California. Sierra Nevada forests provide up to 50 percent of California's annual timber supply and provide other forest products. In addition, sustainably managed forests provide important habitat for hundreds of species, help clean our air and water, aid in the natural storage of water, and offer a variety of recreational opportunities. They also remove and store carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from the atmosphere providing a net carbon sink of 5 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year—an important component in reducing the anticipated impacts of a changing climate.

Before European settlement, fires occurred often in the Sierra Nevada. While frequent in number, the fires were typically less intense and destructive than the catastrophic wildfires we see today. Historic timber harvesting practices coupled with decades of aggressive fire suppression have led to overgrown and unhealthy forests in many parts of the Sierra. At the same time, more people are moving into forested areas, making fire management more complex and the potential for human loss more dramatic. Add to that the anticipated impacts of changing climate patterns—warmer, drier conditions for longer periods of time—and you have got a recipe for bigger, more damaging wildfires across the Region. In the past decade alone, more than two million acres have burned. These fires not only result in the loss of the benefits described above, but release huge amounts of carbon into the atmosphere.

The overabundance of small trees and undergrowth in many Sierra forests can weaken mature trees and lead to fast-moving, high-intensity wildfires. Maintaining sustainable forests and communities requires reducing that vegetation, or forest fuel, and maintaining defensible space around structures. Fuels or “biomass,” can be removed from forests and used to create value-added wood products—such as fence posts, compressed fire logs or pellet fuels,



Sierra Meadow and Woodland

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or landscaping material—or to produce renewable, clean energy. The recycling of this organic biomass can also create green jobs, which in turn help to revitalize struggling local communities.

### WHAT THE SNC IS DOING

The SNC's goal is to work with public and private partners to coordinate and enhance regional efforts around fire and fuels, especially as they relate to improved forest health, community sustainability, resource-based economic development and climate change-related benefits. The SNC has grants in place to support this goal, including funding for local fuel reduction activities and for the development of Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Development of these plans will enable additional federal funds to flow into the Sierra for fuels reduction and other “fire-safe” activities. For example, an SNC grant to Placer County is providing for the construction of shaded fuelbreaks within Hidden Falls Regional Park. Approximately 25 percent of 108 acres of total fuels thinning was accomplished 2008–09. A series of shaded fuelbreaks is designed not only to help control the spread of potential wildfires in the park, but also as part of a larger strategy to cut the risk of catastrophic fire to homes and agriculture on surrounding private land.

In 2008–09 the SNC convened fire officials from throughout the Region to discuss efforts to track fuels reduction efforts, fire history and forest conditions. As a result of the needs expressed by these fire officials, the SNC launched an effort to facilitate collection of common fire-related data throughout the Region. This information will better inform decisions regarding fuels treatment projects and emergency response planning.

In addition, the SNC became a partner in facilitating an exciting new coalition effort, called the Amador-Calaveras Consensus Group, which

uses collaboration among federal, state and local government agencies, tribes and community organizations to support local job training and creation, industrial and commercial development opportunities, sustainable fire-safe activities, and heightened environmental stewardship in Calaveras and Amador Counties.

This model effort has received nearly \$350,000 in federal and state grants as seed money to establish a skills training program, create fuel treatment jobs for displaced timber workers and rural youth, and develop infrastructure for turning forest materials into value-added commercial products or renewable energy. The money generated through the commercial activities would then be reinvested into the community through future fire-safe efforts to continue improving forest health, reducing fire risk and preserving the forests' carbon storage capacity.

*“After years of disagreements regarding forest practices and economic impacts of the collapse of timber industry in our region, we have finally come together in Amador-Calaveras Consensus, sponsored in good measure by Sierra Nevada Conservancy. This has brought together all kinds of agencies; we have BLM, US Forest Service, environmental groups, loggers, contractors, people involved in water agencies—you name it—there’s 32 organizations at last count, coming together for this project.”*

**Steve Wilensky, Calaveras County Board of Supervisors**

## HABITAT—THE SIERRA NEVADA IS HOME TO A MAJORITY OF CALIFORNIA'S SPECIES



Cattle Grazing. Courtesy of WaydeCarrollPhotography.com.

### PROTECTION AND GOOD MANAGEMENT OF LANDS IN THE SIERRA PROTECT BIODIVERSITY IN THE STATE

The Region is home to 60 percent of California's animals (vertebrates)—about 572 distinct species. Over one-third of these animal species are listed by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) as rare, threatened, or endangered species that are declining in California. Almost half of California's plants (3,500 species) are located in the Sierra Nevada and nearly 350 of these are thought to be found only in the Region, including the world's largest living organism—the Giant Sequoia tree.

Habitat for these plants and animals is found not only in the wild areas of the Region, but on sustainably managed working lands, such as farms, ranches, and forestlands. These working landscapes are vitally important to the Region for other reasons as well, providing economic activity and preserving the historical and social fabric of local communities. In addition, forests and rangelands remove and store carbon from the atmosphere and can be managed in ways that maximize their carbon trapping potential.

Conversion of working landscapes and other lands to new uses threatens the Region's biodiversity due to loss and fragmentation of habitat. Other factors include the legacy of past land use practices, climate change, invasive species, poor forest health, and poor air quality. These combined factors are diminishing the resilience of our ecosystems in the Sierra.

### WHAT THE SNC IS DOING

The SNC has grants in place for projects that preserve the rich natural resources of the Region, including funding for conservation easements, on the ground habitat restoration projects, and a project that is mapping all of the benefits derived from the natural resources of the Region. Conservation easements ensure that working



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landscapes remain working landscapes in perpetuity and that they will be managed in a sustainable way.

One of the grants funded by the SNC, which came to fruition in 2008–09 was funding for a video, materials, and ten workshops about the environmental benefits of grazing. This program reached hundreds of individuals and many organizations over the past year. The initial project has been completed; however, the video and its message will continue to be used as an important educational tool supporting our working landscapes.

Two grants to the Lassen County Fire Safe Council to restore traditional wet meadow and sagebrush steppe habitat to its natural conditions were also nearing completion in 2008–09. These projects involved the removal of invasive junipers on both public and private rangeland. SNC funding provided for rehabilitation of 421 acres at the headwaters of Ash Creek, which is improving the hydrologic functioning of the headwaters of Ash Creek as well as improving the habitat characteristics of the area in general, with particular benefit to local sage grouse habitat.

In February 2009 the SNC helped sponsor the Rangeland Coalition's Annual Summit. This year the summit was focused on incentives for ranchers to engage in conservation practices such as carbon sequestration and mitigation easements. Ranchers joined with representatives of environmental organizations, biologists, researchers and agency staff to celebrate success and highlight opportunities for the coming year.

In 2008–09 the SNC also provided funding to the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) to support improving the biological resource information base for the Region including updating records of rare, threatened and endangered species in the California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDDB) and vegetation mapping of the foothills of the western Sierra. The CNDDDB is a spatial database that contains records of

sensitive and rare species as well as state- and federal-listed threatened and endangered species (listed species). The CNDDDB is the most commonly used database by biologists and land managers to evaluate potential impacts to biological resources resulting from proposed projects that will alter the landscape, such as development and restoration activities.

While the CNDDDB records occurrences of sensitive species, it does not represent the habitat or range of a threatened species. In order to better understand where sensitive species might occur and how to mitigate impacts to these species, resource managers need fine scale vegetation data. The SNC's partnership with CDFG to provide funding for vegetation mapping in the Sierra is helping to provide counties and regulatory agencies with the vegetation mapping they need to make important land use decisions; create mitigation plans; and prioritize conservation areas. These maps also help in the development of more refined fire prediction models and can assist rangeland managers in their decision making and help them to secure funding to protect the important natural communities on their lands.

## RECREATION AND TOURISM—CALIFORNIANS FIND RESPITE IN THE SIERRA NEVADA

### RECREATION AND TOURISM ARE IMPORTANT TO THE REGION AND THE STATE

The Sierra Nevada offers extensive, diverse, and constantly evolving opportunities for recreation and tourism. The Region has historically attracted visitors and residents to the natural beauty and resources found in its mountains and water features. These attributes form the foundation for a wide range of recreational sports and activities that help shape the culture and lifestyle of Sierra Nevada communities and are paramount to its allure as a tourism destination.

The Region experiences four distinct seasons that allow for year-round enjoyment of a broad range of outdoor experiences. Visitors and residents enjoy hiking, biking, camping, fishing, swimming and boating during the warmer months and hunting, skiing, snowmobiling, snowshoeing and ice skating in the colder seasons, just to name a few. Vast areas of public land provide access to some of the highest quality rivers, lakes, streams, and trails found in the State, the nation, and the world. The Region is home to three National Parks, two National Monuments, sixteen Wilderness Areas, twenty State Parks and many local parks drawing hundreds of thousands of visitors each year.

In addition to these natural wonders, regional assets including Native American history, Westward exploration parties, nomadic and ranching settlements and the California Gold Rush provide a rich cultural and historic background for a growing heritage tourism market.

Support for and sustenance of tourism in the Sierra Nevada has been and remains extremely important for the long-term health of its resources and residents. The recreation and tourism industry supports local economies by employing residents to provide goods and services like accommodations, arts and entertainment, retail goods, and food and beverages. The industry also provides income to local governments and the State from Transient Occupancy



Sierra Lake

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Taxes and local sales tax and State Tax Receipts, respectively. Travel spending within the Region exceeds \$6 billion annually and tourism-related activities account for 10.4 percent of employment in the Sierra Nevada. The percentage of employment varies among Subregions; the economies of the East and South Central Subregions rely more heavily on travel and tourism and the economies of the Central and South Subregions are significantly less dependent.

### WHAT THE SNC IS DOING

The SNC recognizes the importance of recreation and tourism to the Region as a whole and to the individual counties and communities. The SNC has awarded grants that support the purposes of Proposition 84 and promote the development or enhancement of tourism and recreation in the Region.

In 2008–09, the SNC was a sponsor of the “California Getaway Tour” in partnership with the Redding Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Shasta Cascade Wonderland Association. This mobile “California Welcome Center” was housed in a [vinyl-wrapped Airstream trailer](#) advertising travel destinations in rural California. The SNC developed a Sierra Nevada travel hand-out and accompanying driving tours on its Web site in preparation for the event. The Airstream, carrying our brochures and informed hosts, visited eight venues throughout the state and was viewed by approximately 1.2 million visitors over 26 event-days.

Also in 2008–09 the SNC was a sponsor of the California Trails and Greenways Conference in partnership with the State Parks Foundation, which provided workshops, educational sessions, speakers, and trade representatives promoting the sustainability and importance of trail systems. The conference included speaker sessions featuring two SNC



grantees and their trails projects. The conference attracted recreational planners, administrators and managers, advocacy groups, trail builders and users.

An important effort launched by the SNC in 2008–09 is the Sierra Nevada Geotourism Project. In partnership with National Geographic and the Sierra Business Council, the SNC launched an effort to develop the Sierra Nevada Geotourism Project. Geotourism is defined by National Geographic to mean “*tourism that sustains or enhances the geographical character of a place—its environment, culture, aesthetics, heritage, and the well-being of its residents.*” The program will build and maintain a robust Web site and develop several printed MapGuides to assist prospective tourists in selecting locations to visit and making reservations and itineraries. The Web site can be seen at [www.sierranevadageotourism.org](http://www.sierranevadageotourism.org).



## RECREATION AND TOURISM—CALIFORNIANS FIND RESPITE IN THE SIERRA



In 2008–09 the SNC also worked closely with the Lassen Land and Trails Trust (LLTT) and the Wildlife Conservation Board to complete the acquisition of an 86-mile rail corridor from Union Pacific Railroad called the Modoc Line. The corridor will be owned and managed by the LLTT as a multi-use trail and is an integral link in completing a much broader trail network including the Bizz Johnson Trail, which extends 25 miles from Susanville. This recreational facility will greatly enhance the reputations of Lassen and Modoc Counties as premier tourist destinations. More information about the Modoc Line and the LLTT can be seen at [www.bizzjohnsontrail.com](http://www.bizzjohnsontrail.com).



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Mandarin Orchard. Courtesy of WaydeCarrollPhotography.com.

## BUDGET AND FISCAL ACTIVITY

California's current fiscal crisis has had an impact on all state agencies, their stakeholders, customers, and service levels. The SNC is no exception. The SNC's base operations are supported primarily by the Environmental License Plate Fund (ELPF). Operations related to our grant program and the grants themselves are supported by the sale of bonds from Proposition 84—*The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Act of 2006*.



Progress was made to launch the Sierra Nevada Environmental license plate. Launch scheduled for September 2009.

### SNC OPERATIONS

As shown in the [table](#) on page 27, the SNC spent \$3.9 million of the \$4.5 million appropriated for its operations in 2008–09. The SNC did not fully expend its appropriation from both the ELPF (\$328,000 in savings) and

Proposition 84 Bond funds (\$282,000 in savings). These savings were in addition to a \$38,000 reduction in the amount appropriated to the SNC for state operations in accordance with an [Executive Order](#) requiring that state civil service employees be furloughed two days each month during the last five months of the fiscal year. The savings to the ELPF and Proposition 84 Bond funds were largely driven by the following factors:

- **Freeze on Procurement Activity**—In June of 2009 the Governor issued an [Executive Order](#) freezing state procurement activities and disencumbering contracts entered into after March 1, 2009. This resulted in a savings to the SNC of approximately \$120,000.
- **Salary Savings**—Due to some positions not being filled for parts or all of the fiscal year, the SNC realized salary and benefits savings totalling \$145,000.
- **Overtime and Temporary Help**—The SNC spent 94 percent less than the amount originally budgeted for overtime, a savings of \$26,000; and 19 percent less than the amount originally budgeted for temporary workers, a savings of nearly \$44,000. These savings were generally attributable to a Governor's Executive Order, which restricted the SNC's ability to pay overtime and employ temporary workers.
- **Proposition 84 Support**—Due to an unfilled Proposition 84 position and the freeze on bond-funded projects, the SNC realized savings in the Proposition 84 support budget.

### GRANT PROGRAM EXPENDITURES

The [table](#) on page 27 also shows that the SNC spent only \$50,000 of the \$17 million in Proposition 84 grant funds appropriated to it in 2008–09. This was directly attributable to the freeze put on the expenditure of state bond funds in December of 2008. At that time, state payments to projects



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funded with state bonds were frozen until such time as the State could sell bonds to fund these payments and state agencies were directed not to authorize any new grants.

As a result of the freeze, the only grant authorized by the SNC in 2008–09 was for \$49,900 approved by the SNC's Executive Officer prior to December, using authority granted to him by the Board in specified circumstances. The prohibition against the authorization of new grants was still in place at the time this report was written and is expected to last into the 2009–10 fiscal year.

Additionally, the SNC had to halt payment of prior year funds to our Proposition 84 grantees, including payments for work that had already been completed, but had not yet been paid.

In March and April of 2009 the State completed two successful bond sales. However, the amount of funds made available through these bond sales is less than the amount needed to cover the cost of all state bond-funded projects and the proceeds of the April sale of federally-backed Build America Bonds are limited in their uses. After analyzing project-level information provided by the SNC and other state departments, the State Treasurer's Office authorized a limited amount of funding for SNC grant projects in late June. At the time this report was written, the SNC had placed a high priority on the immediate payment of invoices for work completed by grant recipients prior to the freeze in December 2008 and was working to determine which projects could be restarted using the balance of the authorized funds.



**Marji Feliz, Funding and Resource Coordinator**

### FUNDING INFORMATION OUTREACH

This year the SNC started providing information on non-SNC funding opportunities, workshops, and resources to Sierra Nevada organizations and government entities. Chosen opportunities reflect either the SNC's mission statement and/or one of its seven program areas. Staff research and analyze opportunities from many federal, state, and foundation sources, then compile a list that is posted to the SNC's [Current Funding Opportunities](#) Web page twice a month. Email notification is sent out to nearly 1,000 people each time the Web page is updated, including those who have signed up for a [funding-specific mailing list](#) since April.

Since January the SNC has publicized more than 100 funding resources. Feedback on this service has been consistently positive. Staff is developing plans for additional funding information outreaches.

The SNC also offers funding information that is tailored to specific efforts, such as the Amador-Calaveras Consensus group, and is developing a list of funding sources pertinent to the SNC's draft Climate Action Plan. Staff can give presentations on funding sources upon request.

## BUDGET AND FISCAL ACTIVITY

TABLE: FISCAL YEAR 2008–09 BUDGETED AND ACTUAL EXPENITURES

### STATE OPERATIONS

<b>Personnel Services</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Salaries and Wages	\$ 1,736,700	\$ 1,524,840
Salary Savings	–45,385	—
Staff Benefits	498,927	450,067
<b>Personnel Services Totals</b>	<b>\$ 2,190,242</b>	<b>\$ 1,974,907</b>
<b>Operating Expenses &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>
General Expense	\$ 380,090	\$ 158,002
Travel—In State	138,833	57,602
Travel—Out of State	—	—
Training	52,580	16,989
Facilities	316,635	316,635
Utilities	10,411	9,546
Information Technology	57,646	39,202
Contracts—External	91,633	91,445
Contracts—Interagency Agreement	1,179,799	1,156,109
Other Items of Expense	25,920	12,763
Pro Rata (Control Agency Costs)	55,767	55,767
<b>Operating Expenses &amp; Equipment Totals</b>	<b>\$ 2,309,314</b>	<b>\$ 1,914,060</b>
<b>State Operations Grand Totals</b>	<b>\$ 4,499,557</b>	<b>\$ 3,888,967</b>

### EXPENITURES BY FUNDING SOURCE

<b>State Operations</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Environmental License Plate Fund	\$ 3,990,793	\$ 3,662,909
Proposition 84	508,764	226,057
<b>State Operations Totals</b>	<b>\$ 4,499,557</b>	<b>\$ 3,888,966</b>
<b>Local Assistance Grants</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Proposition 84	\$ 17,000,000	\$ 49,900
<b>Local Assistance Grants Totals</b>	<b>\$ 17,000,000</b>	<b>\$ 49,900</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>		
<b>Expenditures by Funding Source</b>	<b>Budgeted</b>	<b>Actual</b>
State Operations Totals	\$ 4,499,557	\$ 3,888,966
Local Assistance Grants Totals	\$ 17,000,000	\$ 49,900
<b>Total Expenditures Grand Totals</b>	<b>\$ 21,499,557</b>	<b>\$ 3,938,866</b>

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Lake Aloha, Desolation Wilderness



## GOVERNING BOARD

The Governing Board is made up of 16 members; 13 voting and three non-voting members. The voting members include five Governor's appointments, two legislative appointments, and six Local Government representatives. Each of the six Subregions are represented by a member of the Board of Supervisors from a county within the Subregion (selected by the counties), serving two-year terms. Listed below are the members representing the Board for 2008 through June 2009.

The non-voting members serve as liaison advisors as follows: one representative of the National Park Service, designated by the United States Secretary of the Interior; one representative of the United States Forest Service, designated by the United States Secretary of Agriculture; and one representative of the United States Bureau of Land Management, designated by the United States Secretary of the Interior.

### Governor's Appointees

[Mike Chrisman, Chair](#) .....Secretary for Natural Resources  
[Tom Sheehy](#) .....Designated Representative, Chief Deputy  
Director, Department of Finance  
[Bob Kirkwood](#) .....Public Member  
[B. J. Kirwan](#) .....Public Member  
Carol Whiteside (2005–08) .....Public Member

### Legislative Appointees

Byron Sher (2005–08) .....Senate Rules Committee  
[John Brissenden](#) .....Speaker of the Assembly

### Local Government's Appointees

- **North Sierra Subregion**  
[Brian Dahle](#) .....Supervisor, Lassen County
- **North Central Sierra Subregion**  
[Kim Yamaguchi](#) .....Supervisor, Butte County  
Rose Comstock (2008) .....Supervisor, Plumas County
- **Central Sierra Subregion**  
[Hal Stocker](#) .....Supervisor, Yuba County  
Robert Weygandt (2007–08) .....Supervisor Placer County
- **East Sierra Subregion**  
[Donald Jardine](#) .....Supervisor, Alpine County  
Byng Hunt (2007–08) .....Supervisor, Mono County
- **South Central Sierra Subregion**  
[Steve Wilensky, Vice Chair](#) .....Supervisor, Calaveras County
- **South Sierra Subregion**  
[Jon McQuiston](#) .....Supervisor, Kern County

### Non-Voting Liaison Advisors

[Bill Haigh \(2007–09\)](#) .....Bureau of Land Management  
[Beth Pendleton](#) .....U.S. Forest Service  
[David Graber Ph.D.](#) .....National Park Service  
Mike Tollefson (2005–08) .....National Park Service

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### A SPECIAL THANKS TO MIKE TOLLEFSON



Mike Tollefson, one of the SNC's inaugural Governing Board members, left the Board in October 2008 when he retired from the National Park Service (NPS). Mike concluded his 36 plus years with the NPS by serving as Superintendent at Yosemite since January 2003.

During his service representing NPS on the Board, Mike was a strong supporter of establishing a close working relationship between the SNC and the various federal agencies active in the Sierra. At Mike's suggestion, the SNC has hosted an annual meeting with its federal partners during the past three years to discuss issues of mutual concerns and opportunities for collaboration.

Mike is currently serving as President of the Yosemite Fund, based in San Francisco. A sincere thank you and good luck to Mike from the SNC Board and staff.

Mike Chrisman, Mike Tollefson and Jim Branham

## STAFF

### Executive Staff

Jim Branham .....Executive Officer  
Joan Keegan.....Assistant Executive Officer  
Robert Joenck.....Staff Counsel  
Tristyn Armstrong .....Executive Assistant  
Theresa Burgess.....Board Liaison/Policy Analyst

### Program Staff

Kerri Timmer.....Program Manager  
Marji Feliz .....Funding and  
Resource Development Coordinator  
Angela Avery.....Grants Program Coordinator  
Shana Avalos.....Outreach and  
Partnership Program Coordinator  
Lynn Campbell .....Grants Program Analyst  
Lisa Forma.....Grants Program Analyst

### Mt. Lassen Staff

Bob Kingman .....Mt. Lassen Area Manager  
Linda Hansen .....Mt. Lassen Area Senior Representative  
Chris Dallas .....Mt. Lassen Area Representative  
Julie Griffith-Flatter.....Mt. Lassen Area Representative  
Brittany Juergenson .....Mt. Lassen Area Analyst

### Mt. Whitney Staff

Kim Carr .....Mt. Whitney Area Manager  
Julie Bear .....Mt. Whitney Area Senior Representative  
Brandon Sanders .....Mt. Whitney Area Representative  
Elizabeth Van Wagtendonk.....Mt. Whitney Project Consultant  
Mandy Vance .....Mt. Whitney Project Consultant  
Bobby Kamansky.....Mt. Whitney Project Consultant  
Autumn Hutchings .....Office Technician

### Administrative Staff

Pete Dufour .....Administrative Services Manager  
Shelly Owens .....Budget and Contracts Analyst  
Dave Madrigal .....Information Technology Analyst  
Amy Lebak .....Human Resources and  
Business Services Analyst  
Laurie Keith .....Office Technician  
Barbara Harriman .....Office Technician  
Rita Adair .....Human Resources



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Winter Palette, Truckee River. Courtesy of [ElizabethCarmel.com](http://ElizabethCarmel.com).

## APPENDIX A: FISCAL YEAR 2008–2009 GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY SUBREGION

### NORTH SIERRA

101 Ranch Conservation Easement	\$ 40,000
Lower Beaver Creek Planning Project	82,700
Lower Rose Creek Restoration Project	47,490
Mason/Monchamp/Balcom Streambank Stabilization and Floodplain Enhancement Project	188,390
South Ash Valley Riparian Monitoring Project	50,000
<hr/>	
North Sierra Total	\$ 408,580

### NORTH CENTRAL SIERRA

Dotta Property Fee Title Acquisition	\$ 200,000
Feather River Watershed Stewardship and Education	99,544
Plumas County Fire Safe Council Community Hazardous Fuel Reduction Planning	72,000
Jamison Ranch Conservation Easement	50,000
Sierra Nevada Rangeland 2008 Pre-Project Due Diligence Tasks, Key Brand Angus Ranch	12,675
<hr/>	
North Central Sierra Total	\$ 434,219

### CENTRAL SIERRA

Bear Valley Meadow: Restoring Cultural and Ecological Integrity	\$ 107,000
Nevada City Environs Trail and Restoration Project	207,345
Watersheds: Human Connections	65,000
Final Planning and Design for the Trout Creek Pocket Park Restoration Project	93,500

## SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT

### CENTRAL SIERRA (CONTINUED)

Forbestown Shaded Fuel Break Environmental Compliance	22,000
Hazel Meadow Restoration Project	66,116
Sierra Nevada Rangeland 2008 Pre-Project Due Diligence Tasks – Penobscot Ranch	11,675
Central Sierra Total	\$ 572,636

### SOUTH SIERRA

Bob Powers Gateway Preserve Strategic Plan	\$ 71,000
Sand Canyon Environmental Education Program	34,051
Fine Gold Creek Riparian Fencing	100,000
Restoration of Mountain Yellow-Legged Frogs in Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks (SEKI): Pre-Project Due Diligence	49,900
South Sierra Total	\$ 254,951

### SOUTH CENTRAL SIERRA

Central Sierra Watershed Education Program	\$ 98,700
Phoenix Lake Preservation and Restoration Plan	100,000
Mariposa School Forest Project	50,000
Mariposa County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Launch Project	49,900
Cosumnes Watershed Home Yard Audits	35,900
Post-Fire Invasive Weed Management in the Upper Merced River Watershed	60,500
South Central Sierra Total	\$ 395,000



## APPENDIX A: FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009 GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY SUBREGION

### EAST SIERRA

East Carson River Riparian Restoration Project	\$	35,000
Inyo Complex Post-Fire Watershed Recovery		34,300
Parks and Recreation and Trail System Master Plans Program Environmental Impact Report		185,535
East Sierra Total	\$	254,835

### REGION-WIDE

Regional Approach for Water Reuse	\$	270,000
The Great Sierra River Cleanup*		76,900
Region-Wide Total	\$	346,900

**GRAND TOTAL** \$ 2,666,221

\*Due to unavailability of bond funds for grants, SNC is undertaking this project.

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## APPENDIX B: FISCAL YEAR 2007–2008 GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY SUBREGION

### NORTH SIERRA

Buffalo-Skedaddle Landscape Management and Restoration Initiative: Project Coordinator	\$ 48,400
Buffalo-Skedaddle Landscape Management and Restoration Initiative	98,500
Central Modoc River Center Capacity Building Project	23,500
Day Lassen Bench Fuel Reduction & Watershed Restoration Project	99,999
Hulsman Ranch Conservation Easement	35,000
Lower Ash Creek Restoration Planning Project	53,600
McBride Springs/Willow Creek Restoration Planning and Development Project	33,100
McClelland/Eagle Lake Ranch Appraisal	7,700
Modoc Line Land Acquisition Evaluation and Management Plan	39,090
Pit River Planning and Development Project	137,300
Rickert Ranch Conservation Easement Acquisition	1,000,000
Robber's Creek Mill Site "How To" Guide	48,000
South Knob Sagebrush Steppe Watershed Restoration Project	99,999
South Knob Sagebrush Steppe Watershed Restoration Project/Ash Valley	99,999
Susanville Fuel Reduction & Watershed Restoration Project	142,497
Watershed Restoration Projects, Planning and Development	51,720
Parkville Ranch Conservation Easement*	546,000
<b>North Sierra Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,564,404</b>

\*This project was awarded by the SNC Board of Directors, but not accepted by Grantee.



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### NORTH CENTRAL SIERRA

"Planning to Plan" for Better Integration of Water Management Among Local Governments in the North Central Sierra Region	\$	48,446
Big Chico Creek Watershed Linkage Project		15,000
Defensible Space Chipper Program		98,445
Developing a Working Landscapes Watershed Management Plan for the Almanor Basin		92,329
Feather Falls Shaded Fuel Break Phase III		98,980
Feather River College Hatchery – Site Improvement Project		70,000
Feather River College Hatchery Project Fish – Education and Tourism		26,875
Filippini Ranch Riparian Restoration		92,000
Grizzly Creek Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project		12,300
Lemon Canyon Ranch		50,000
Merrill Davies Stream and Meadow Restoration		152,000
North Fork Feather River Noxious Weed Management Project		45,010
Plumas County Fire Safe Council Educational and Publication Development Project		27,000
Plumas County Trails Master Plan		30,000
Sierra Buttes/Lakes Basin Acquisition – Biehl Parcel on Lusk Meadow		41,500
Sierra Buttes/Lakes Land Appraisals and Acquisitions (Appraisal Phase)		41,000
Sierra Valley RCD Watershed Outreach Event Proposal		8,445
Sierra Valley Sub-Basin Modeling Project		29,000
Sulphur Creek Bank Stabilization Demonstration Project Environmental Review		7,500
Sulphur/Barry Creek Confluence Restoration Project Environmental Review		19,530

## APPENDIX B: FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY SUBREGION

### NORTH CENTRAL SIERRA (CONTINUED)

Tuscan Headwaters Project	146,640
Heart K Ranch Project*	1,000,000
North Central Sierra Total	\$ 2,152,000

### CENTRAL SIERRA

2008 California Forestry Challenge	\$ 35,000
Alpine Meadows Community Consolidated Fuels Reduction Project	176,375
American River Educational Outreach Publications	48,500
Assessing and Restoring Deer Creek Watershed	75,000
Canyon View Watershed and Habitat Restoration Project	298,550
Coldstream Canyon Design and Permitting for Creek and Floodplain Restoration	91,500
Collins Lake Acquisition Project (Siller Property)	925,750
Eastern Placer Creek Signage	15,000
Environmental Review: Assessing the Impacts of Removing Mercury-Laden Sediment from Combie Reservoir	100,000
Fire Safe Council of Nevada Council: Defensible Space Advisory	10,632
Green Fields of Golden Sierra	300,000
Hangtown Creek Comprehensive Watershed Plan	130,635
Hidden Falls Regional Park – Fuel Load Reduction and Related Fire Safe Activities	506,207
Hidden Falls Regional Park – Trail Connectivity Studies	140,000

\*This project was awarded by the SNC Board of Directors, but not accepted by Grantee.

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### CENTRAL SIERRA (CONTINUED)

Inventory and Geographic Reference of Firefighting Water Resources	64,900
Low Impact Development Guidebook	45,000
Mercury Bioavailability and Transport in Deer Creek over Lake Wildwood Reservoir	44,467
Nevada County (FIRST) Community Shaded Fuelbreak and Riparian Forest Restoration Project	406,000
Nevada County (FIRST) Defensible Space Education & Compliance Program	49,500
Nevada County (FIRST) Defensible Space Recognition & Home Tour	18,000
Phase 2, Lower Squaw Creek Restoration	49,900
South Fork American River (SFAR) Water Quality and Recreation Study	118,236
Squaw Valley Park Fuels Reduction and Related Fire Safe Activities	245,500
US Hwy 40 (Donner Pass Road) Shoulder Rehabilitation	500,000
Vegetation Management: Forest Thinning, Brush Mastication and Prescribed Burning	214,044
Yuba River Wildlife and Recreation Area; Conservation and Acquisition Program Phase 1	45,000
Yuba River Wildlife Area – Rice's Crossing Priority Acquisition Project Phase II	1,000,000
Esoteric Fraternity Property - Due Diligence Studies*	38,000
Central Sierra Total	\$ 5,691,696

### SOUTH SIERRA

Agri-Nature Tourism Small Business Development Workshops for Fresno and Tulare Counties	\$ 20,000
Audubon California Kern River Preserve Visitor Facility Planning Project	152,000

\*This project was awarded by the SNC Board of Directors, but not accepted by Grantee.



## APPENDIX B: FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY SUBREGION

### **SOUTH SIERRA (CONTINUED)**

Big Meadows Restoration Project	29,655
California Amer-aisian Resource Education (CARE) Environmental Ethics in the Sierra Nevada Video	50,000
Community Wildfire Protection Plan	1,617
Crystal Cave Solar Generation Project	211,500
Develop Visitor Access and Outdoor Education Plan for Blue Oak Ranch Preserve	22,468
Northern Tulare County-Community Wildfire Protection Plan	59,000
Prevention/Education Program and Council Development	10,000
Rangers in the Classroom	65,000
Revive the San Joaquin, San Joaquin River Restoration Stewards Partnership Network	69,769
Southern Sierra IRWMP Launch Project	49,950
Southern Tulare County – Community Wildfire Protection Plan	54,000
Tule River Environmental Review	140,000
Tule River Improvement Project	99,999
Tule River Site Improvement Project II	149,428
Tule River Watershed Restoration Project	93,776
Visitor Access/Outdoor Education Plan and Visitor Guide for Homer Ranch and Dry Creek Preserves	45,750
Welcome to the Foothills: A Guide to Living Lightly in ___ County	49,999
<b>South Sierra Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,373,911</b>

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## **SOUTH CENTRAL SIERRA**

Amador County Watershed Stewardship Project	\$ 173,780
Bohna Ranch Conservation Easement	590,000
Calaveras County Conservation Planning Project	46,000
Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions Project (CHIPS)	48,629
Cattle Drive Trail Shaded Fuel Break Phase 3	48,519
Central Sierra Resource Mapping	47,850
Defensible Space Inspection Program	19,625
Love Creek Working Forest Conservation Easement	25,000
Love Creek Working Forest Project Phase II	75,000
Mariposa County Chipping Program	115,787
Mariposa County Defensible Space Assistance/Hazardous Fuel Chipping Program Phase I (Cutting and Piling)	99,970
Merced River Center Phase I: Building Renovation	93,108
Oakvale Ranch	7,500
Pine Grove Planning Unit, Community Wildfire Protection Plan	50,000
Pioneer-Volcano Planning Unit Community Wildfire Protection Plan	50,000
Planning, Coordination and Education Expenses	69,911
Regional Water and Wastewater Reconnaissance Study for Hwy 4 Corridor	32,610
Sierra Nevada Foothills Native Plant Demonstration Garden	63,998
Tuolumne County Water Quality Plan Coordinated Watershed Management Program	48,500
<b>South Central Sierra Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,705,787</b>

## APPENDIX B: FISCAL YEAR 2007–2008 GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY SUBREGION

### EAST SIERRA

Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Concept and Master Planning (MLTPA CAMP)	\$ 120,099
Alpine Watershed Group Water Quality Monitoring Program, Years 4–5	60,901
Celebrating Conservation: Benton Hot Springs Valley	18,435
East Walker River Assessment and Watershed Plan	81,860
Eastern Sierra Citizen Watershed Assessments	45,000
Eastern Sierra IRWMP Launch Project	49,663
Eastern Sierra Watershed Project	91,600
Inyo and Mono Counties Community Based Land Tenure Planning	157,550
Inyo Forest Restoration and Conservation Project	58,000
Lower Owens River Project Recreational Use Plan	95,350
Lower Owens River Watershed Habitat Improvement Project	156,622
Mammoth Lakes Basin Interagency Collaborative Planning	196,000
Mill City Fuels Reduction Project	199,998
Mono Basin Resource Stewardship	96,100
Twin Lakes Drainage Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project	25,443
<b>East Sierra Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,477,621</b>



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### REGION-WIDE

Aquatic Invasives Brochure	\$ 3,205
Biomass Removal on National Forest Lands	49,500
California Rangeland Trust Sierra Nevada Rangeland Assessment Project	49,500
Central Sierra Smart Growth Conference	20,000
Comprehensive Interpretive Plan – Yosemite National Park and Surrounding Communities	23,250
Enhancing Water Supply and Improving Dam Operations Through Improved Upstream Forest Management	80,000
Environmental Benefits of Grazing Educational Tour and Video	68,000
Fish Friendly Farming Environmental Certification Program	283,480
Fuel Treatment Monitoring and Educational Publication	55,620
Kern Plateau Stream and Riparian Restoration	91,300
Learning Landscapes	61,820
Northern Sierra Carbon Cooperative – Ecosystem Services Inventory	45,000
Sierra Cascade Land Trust Council – Sierra Cascade Foothill Region Conservation	76,675
Sierra Nevada Adaptive Management Project	123,000
Sierra Nevada Alliance Land and Water Project	150,000
Sierra Nevada Classroom Project (SNCP)	104,640
Sierra Nevada Science Institute: Development of a Timeline and Business Plan	32,500
Sierra Nevada Trails and Recreation Initiative – Planning	33,750
Sierra Nevada Trails and Recreation Initiative – Project	50,000
Sierra Water Trust: Building Capacity in the Sierra Nevada to Assess and Fulfill Critical Flow Augmentation Needs	45,000

## APPENDIX B: FISCAL YEAR 2007-2008 GRANT DISTRIBUTION BY SUBREGION

### REGION-WIDE (CONTINUED)

Stewardship Contracting Workshops	46,440
Tuolumne Ditch System Sustainability Project	350,000
Watersheds and Protected Lands for the Sierra Nevada	71,860
Yuba 2010: Tools and Capacity for Community Supported Watershed Science, Protection and Restoration	84,609
Region-Wide Total	\$ 1,999,149
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 16,964,568</b>